Attachment 1

Food Assistance Programs in Massachusetts

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture

State Agency: Department of Transitional Assistance | Department of Public Health | Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Program:

- Food Stamps/SNAP *(entitlement)*
- WIC Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants & Children *(block grant)*
- TEFAP/MEFAP Emergency Food Assistance *(block grant)*
- School Lunch & Breakfast *(entitlement)*
- Summer Food Program *(entitlement)*
- CACFP Child & Adult Care Food Program

Federal Funds FY 2011

Food Stamps/SNAP	WIC	TEFAP/MEFAP	School Lunch & Breakfast	Summer Food Program	CACFP
Benefits $1,291,609,491; Admin $48,533,327	Benefits $61,858,249; Nutritionists & Admin $26,773,148	TEFAP Benefits $6,846,541; TEFAP Admin $1,254,904	Lunch Reimb $141,232,306; Commodities $21,828,479	Breakfast Reimbursements $37,283,889	Benefits $6,010,036	Benefits $49,664,354

State Funds

Food Stamps/SNAP	WIC	TEFAP/MEFAP	School Lunch & Breakfast	Summer Food Program	CACFP
Outreach $2,880,694; Admin $48,908,883	Benefits $12,428,884; Rebate $ for Addl. Benefits $23,600,000	MEFAP Benefits $11,500,000; MEFAP Admin $1,000,000	Fed Required Match $5,426,986	State Breakfast Program $4,121,215	n/a	n/a

Local Agency:

- DTA area offices & centralized web units
- Local WIC sites
- Area food pantries
- Schools, public & some private
- Sponsoring orgs (schools, camps, community centers, etc.)
- Independent centers or sponsors

Eligibility (See full legal analyses for more detail.)

- *200% gross FPL for families w/ kids; 130% FPL for all others
  *Net income rules apply to some households ("net" = income minus 7 possible deductions)
  *Other gross income rules for ppl w/out kids
  *Must be US citizen or legal immigrant
  *Non-legal parent can apply for citizen child
- * Pregnant, post-partum , & breastfeeding women up to 185% FPL gross income
  *Children under age 5
  *No immigrant or SSN required
- *TEFAP-185% FPL gross
  *MEFAP-no income level
  *No immigrant or SSN requirements
  Note: MA Dept. of Agriculture also plays a role.
- *0-130% FPL = free meals; 130-185% FPL = reduced meals
  *Categorically *free* if homeless or if anyone in household is on TAFDC or SNAP, meaning many kids 130%-200% can still get free meal access
  *No immigrant or SSN requirement
- Free to: all if 50% of area kids are FRL, enrolled kids if 50% NSLP eligible, camp kids NSLP eligible
- Center claim based on children's school meals category; family day care payment based on low-income area or other factors

Access

- Apply at local DTA, via paper app or on-line via Virtual Gateway
- Apply at local WIC office
- Apply at area food pantries (TEFAP=The Emergency Food Assist. Program; MEFAP=Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program)
- Apply through school district NSLP application. On-line app being developed. No app needed for children getting or living w/ TAFDC or SNAP applicants, nor foster children, homeless or runaways. Data share with DTA and DCF data allows for "direct certification".
  *Breakfast: Schools w/ 40%+ F/R must offer bfast; schools w/ 60%+ can offer universal bfast w/ state grant
- Program applies, not family
- Family day cares must sign agreement w/ sponsoring org.; child care centers apply independently or via sponsor.

Benefit

- *EBT benefit card to purchase food
  *Benefit based on max SNAP allotment for household size less 30% of countable income
- *Food vouchers redeemed for specific food items
  *EBT WIC card starts in 2015
  *Benefit package includes nutrition screening & counseling
- *Food packages
  *Restrictions on # of packages per month
  *TEFAP food also used in community meal sites
- *Child eats free, pays $.40 for lunch, or pays full-price
  *Snacks and milk also available thru NSLP
  Lunch Reimbursements to School:

Free	Reduced	Paid
$2.77	$2.37	$0.26

  *Addl. fed reimb. Of $0.02 per meal for schools w/ 60%+ F/R
- Child eats free, pays $.30 per breakfast, or pays full-price
  Breakfast Reimbursements to School:

Free	Reduced	Paid
$1.51	$1.21	$0.27

  Addl. state support for schools w/ high % of F/R kids:
  *Bfast +$0.14 per meal
  *Universal Bfast grants to schools 60%+ F/R
- For most sites, all children get free meals or snack
- Serves snacks and meals at no charge to child if site receives CACFP

Delivery

- EBT-approved grocers & farmers markets
- EBT/WIC-approved grocers & farmers markets; WIC nutritionists provide screening & counseling
- Food pantries provide food packages
- Schools make food or purchase from vendor
- Bfast can be in cafeteria, grab & go, or in classroom (if universal)
- Open sites provide food to all comers; closed sites only to enrolled kids
- Child care providers

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MLRI Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
UMass Boston Center for Social Policy, McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies
MassBudget Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center
Eos Foundation